

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

INTRODUCTION

FINDINGS OF FACT

2. The petitioner applied for GA on October 1, 2004 because he wants to move out of his parent's home. The Department denied the application because it did not find that the petitioner was facing a catastrophic situation as defined in the regulations.

3. At a hearing held by phone on November 17, 2004, at which the petitioner was accompanied and ably assisted by his counselor at the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the petitioner alleged that he occasionally has problems living with his parents. At this time, however, there is no indication either that they have asked him to leave their home or that his living there constitutes a threat to his health, safety, or well being.¹

ORDER

The Department's decision is affirmed.

REASONS

The General Assistance regulations provide that households with income in excess of the Reach Up Financial Assistance (RUFA) maximum can only receive additional financial assistance if they are experiencing a "catastrophic situation". See W.A.M. 2600 *et. seq.* The petitioner's income is well in excess of the RUFA payment level for a one-

¹ As he has at several past Fair Hearings, the petitioner raised instances of "abuse", "fraud", and "ID theft" that have reportedly happened to him in the past. The petitioner was advised to reapply for GA if and when he is ever without housing. He was also advised of the availability of a Town Service Officer if he faces an emergency situation on a weekend, and of the investigative and remediation services of the Department of Aging and Disabilities (DAD) if he believes himself to be the victim of abuse.

person household. W.A.M. §§ 2244-2249. The GA regulations define a catastrophic situation in the context of an emergency need for housing as "a court ordered eviction or constructive eviction". W.A.M. § 2602.1.

As noted above, the petitioner's allegations in this matter do not indicate that he is facing any imminent loss of housing or that his present situation threatens his health or safety. Thus, it must be concluded that the requirements to qualify for cash assistance under the catastrophic situation provisions of GA have not been met.

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